Message Text

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR BUCHANAN

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: RFE ACCREDITATION TO WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

REF: (A) STATE 036030; (B) VIENNA 1172; (C) VIENNA 1174

1. I CONTINUED MY SEARCH THIS AFTERNOON FOR SOLUTION RFE ACCREDITATION PROBLEM WITH CALL ON SECRETARY GENERAL KLEE OF AUSTRIAN OLYMPIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION REGARDING HIS UNDERSTANDING OF RFE PROBLEM, KLEE, WHO IS ALSO A PROMINENT PRACTICING INNSBRUCK LAWYER, GAVE IMMEDIATE AND FORTHRIGHT ANSWER, SAYING THAT RFE MEMBERS WERE INCLUDED ON LIST OF PRESS REPRESENTATIVES SUBMITTED BY THE WEST GERMAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE. LIST WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT IN PRECISE FORM PRESCRIBED BY RULES, I.E. IT WAS

NOT SIGNED BY PRESIDENT OF WEST GERMAN NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE; HOWEVER, AUSTRIAN OLYMPIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OVERLOOKED THIS MINOR TECHNICALITY AND ACCREDITED ALL ON THE LIST, INCLUDING RFE. CZECHS AND ROMANIANS IN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY PROTESTED TO AUSTRIANS BUT WERE TOLD THAT AUSTRIANS WERE SATISFIED RFE ACCREDITATION WAS CORRECT. RUSSIANS THEN CHALLENGED RFE ACCREDITATION IN MEETING OF IOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. WHEN WILLI DAUME, PRESIDENT OF WEST GERMAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND WEST GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE ON IOC WAS ASKED ABOUT RFE, HE DENIED THAT WEST GERMANY HAS SPONSORED RFE MEMBERS.

- 2. I CALLED NEXT AGAIN ON JULIAN ROOSEVELT, US MEMBER OF IOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WHO CONFIRMED THAT WILLI DAUME HAD INDEED REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE WEST GERMAN SPONSORSHIP OF RFE MEMBERS.
- 3. EXACTLY WHEN OR HOW RFE OBTAINED ORIGINAL WEST GERMAN SPONSORSHIP AND ON WHAT LEVEL, I AT THIS TIME IN INNSBRUCK COULD NOT DETERMINE. IT SEEMS TO ME APPARENT THAT DAUME'S FAILURE TO SUPPORT RFE WAS FATAL. IN ANY CASE, ROOSEVELT WAS PACKING TO LEAVE INNSBRUCK WHEN I TALKED TO HIM THIS AFTERNOON,OUR OTHER US REPRESENTATIVE IN IOC IS ALREADY BACK IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THUS WE HAVE NO AMERICAN INSTRUMENT OR CHANNEL FOR FURTHER EFFORT TO PERSUADE IOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR LORD KILLANIN. CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HOPE FOR ANY CHANGE IN RFE ACCREDITATION BEFORE END OF OLYMPICS TOMORROW.BUCHANAN

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